Uproar Over CIA Imperils Fund's Work in India

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By Warren Unna
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NEW DELHI, March 2—India's left-wing publications are beginning to resume their attacks on the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency's attempts to "infiltrate" this country and once the election news has quieted down here some top Indian officials think the leftists will have a field day.

Even at the onset of India's general elections two weeks ago, the reports from the United States about CIA front groups helping out Indian nationals were considered important enough to command big news play.

Named then were the Friends of India Committee Trust, an American-based group which received money through the "Catherwood Foundation" to invite prominent Indians to visit the United States.

Press reports from the United States said that M. J. Desai, former Secretary General of India's Ministry of External Affairs, received a $1500 grant from the Granary Fund, a CIA conduit.

Fears are now being voiced in Indian government circles that the CIA controversy will open new sores on a now-abandoned attempt by the Voice of America to build a transmitter here. There was so much public outcry that the VOA transmitter represented American "infiltration" that the contract had to be abandoned. This occurred before the present CIA uproar.

Officials here fear that private American foundations also are bound to be tarnished by the new publicity over CIA's conduit groups. One high Ministry of External Affairs official recalled that for years India kept out the Asia Foundation, which it suspected was a recipient of CIA funds. It was only with reservations that it permitted the group to come here in 1962. Among other things, the Asia Foundation helps pay for Indian and other Asian journalists and scientists as fellows at Harvard's Nieman Foundation and Columbia's Pulitzer School of Journalism.

Indiana U. Denies 'Spy School' Charge

BLOOMINGTON, Ind., March 2 (UPI)—Indiana University officials said Wednesday a six-week summer course here was nothing more than a language cram course despite Kremlin implications it was a "spy school."

Prvda, the Soviet Communist Party Newspaper, said the Central Intelligence Agency used American students and professors for espionage against Russia and to subvert Soviet citizens by using the American Inter-University Committee headquartered at Indiana.

University spokesmen said Pravda apparently was referring to an annual summer seminar in Slavic languages.